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Volume IV, Number 2, Summer 1993

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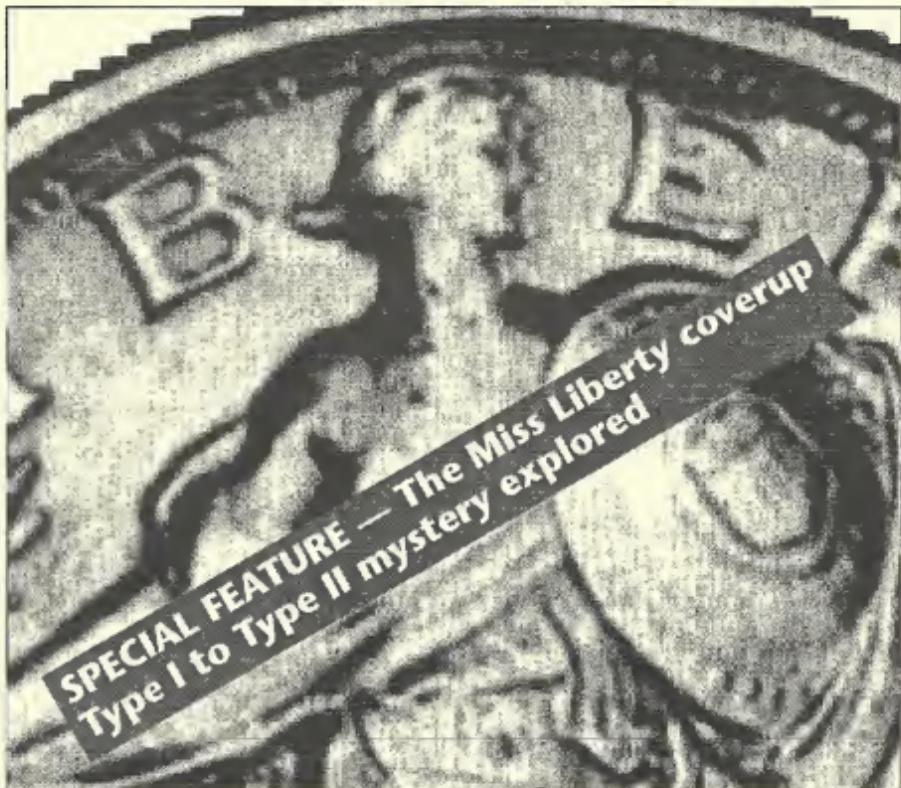
# MacNeil's Notes



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Journal of the  
**Standing Liberty Quarter Collectors Society**

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## **MacNeil's Notes**

The official publication of the Standing Liberty Quarter Collectors Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing together and increasing the knowledge of people interested in Standing Liberty quarters.

Dues for the SLQCS are \$10.00 per year and include a subscription to *MacNeil's Notes*. The SLQCS is a member of the American Numismatic Association (membership number C-149211) and the Florida United Numismatists (membership number 12360).

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## President's message

Joe Abbin

**W**ow! It's hard to believe it's August already — time flies when you collect Standing Liberty quarters! It also flies when you have publication deadlines.

I think you will enjoy our theme in this issue — a tongue-in-cheek continuation of the investigations of the great cover up of Miss Liberty in 1917 (seems like just yesterday). Future issues of *MacNeil's Notes* will focus on the models for Miss Liberty and on Hermon MacNeil himself. Anyone having any tidbits on these or any other subjects relating to Standing Liberty quarters or coin collecting in general please send them in.

Since our members are scattered across the country, we are essentially a "mail order club" dependent on this Journal and submitted material for communication and education about our speciality. Even though we are a mail order club, we do schedule informal meetings of the Society at the FUN show in January and at the Long Beach show in June. We had about a dozen people show up at the Long Beach meeting last June, even though the meeting room was not in the directory and we had to walk the halls for a room and announce the location on the public address system "just in time" (actually a little late!). Standing Liberty quarter collectors have real tenacity! Maybe that's all we need at any time and location. Think about an informal meeting at your local shows — you never can tell who will show up.

A new feature debuting in this issue is "Keith's Korner," where our founder and current vice-president, Keith Saunders, will research and answer the technical questions we get from the membership. Keith is knowledgeable himself and has contact with many other informed numismatists through his correspondence and travels.

So keep those comments and questions coming. We anticipate that many other members will also be able to add to Keith's comments and answers by sending their own letters to the editor.

*Adios* until next issue. ☺

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## **Who covered up Miss Liberty and why? Part 2**

**Joe Abbin**

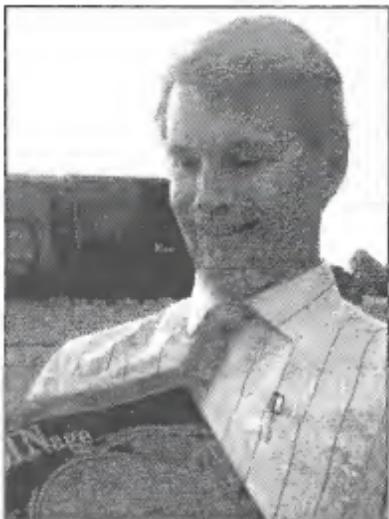
In the short article I wrote in the Summer 1992 issue of *MacNeil's Notes*, I noted that I have been researching information concerning the transition of the Standing Liberty quarter designs from the Type I to the Type II. I had occasion to visit the ANA library in Colorado Springs in February and found some additional information on this subject.

An invitation to comment on the new U.S. coins for 1916 was extended in the January 1917 issue of *The Numismatist*. In response, there were two letters to the editor in the February 1917 issue of *The Numismatist* commenting on the quarters. These are reproduced below:

### **The New Half and Quarter Dollar**

To the Editor of *The Numismatist*:

The renewal of our coins is now complete, and I suppose we should say unanimously that every new example is an improvement over its predecessor. The effort to get a superior coinage for the United States has resulted in considerable success. The prize for the finest design, of all the eight new ones, I should award to Fraser for his very excellent five-cent piece. If only it were struck in something else than nickel! I think the best eagle is that on the ten-dollar piece by St. Gaudens. I am unable to say much for the big one on the half-dollar — he appears rather stolid — nor for the rather frayed-winged one on the quarter. Besides, I like eagles better when facing left rather than right.



The obverse of the quarter is very fine and may be called stately. The obverse of the half strongly suggests that of Roty's French coins, but by comparison lacks simplicity. I wish we might have had on it the same clean concavity of field that the dime shows.

Horace L. Wheeler

### Designs of the New Half and Quarter Dollar

To the Editor of *The Numismatist*:

The obverse of the new half and quarter dollars are beautiful and very artistic. The appearance of the half-dollar could have been improved, however, by a few minor changes, but it would require too much space to explain in a short criticism. The logical position of the rising sun is on the right side of the coin but this would require a reversal of the figure of Liberty and hide the left arm. The obverse of the quarter-dollar to me appears perfect in every detail.

The eagles on the reverses are both faulty; artistic but not natural. Mr. Weinman's eagle has long legs and wears feather chaps, from shoulder joint to end of tail extremity long, wings if folded would reach beyond the tail, end of rings rounded and the feathers impossible, and the left wing in an impossible position.

Mr. MacNeil's eagle: The body is much too light and to a less degree short; the wings in excellent position, but the feathers of the wing are in wrong position; and a curved line is added to the last joint of the right wing. The feathers of the wing should be spread as in a fan and curved a little downward. The wings should be more pointed. Although the fourth primary is the longest, it is inserted in the wing nearer the body. The feathers in the tip of the right wing are turned upward, as is correct, from the pressure of the air against them, but those of the left wing are turned downward. A little study of ornithology and a visit to a zoological garden would have benefitted both of these artists.

Geo. R. Ross  
Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Both correspondents were obviously fans of the national bird; particularly Mr. Ross, who is clearly an avid ornithologist. It

would have been interesting to know his credentials — was he a professional in the field?

Another short news article hinting at the design change from Type I to Type II appears in the March 1917 issue of *The Numismatist* and is reproduced below:

#### **May Change Design of New Quarter Dollar**

Press dispatches the past month contained the information that a change of the reverse design of the new quarter dollar is contemplated by the Treasury officials. Mr. Hermon A. MacNeil is said to have suggested placing on the reverse a background of stars for the eagle and slightly raising the design of the eagle. For the time being, however, the coinage of the present design will continue.

Another newsnote appears in the November 1917 issue of *The Numismatist*:

#### **Revised Design for U.S. 1917 Quarter Dollars**

Some months ago *The Numismatist* announced that the Treasury Department was considering making some alterations to the design of the Quarter Dollar, particularly to the reverse die. The alterations have been made, and the Philadelphia Mint is now engaged in striking the coins.

Regarding the new issue Mr. Farran Zerbe writes: "The most noticeable difference is on the reverse. The eagle is higher and there is a new arrangement of the stars, three stars being placed below the eagle. On the obverse the features of the head of Liberty are stronger. The sprig in her hand does not engage the 'L.' There are fewer dots in the shield, and the undraped chaste bust of the old has been given what looks like a corsage of mail."

A comparison of the old with the new pieces will convince collectors that an improvement has been made. The only serious objection to the old reverse was that the eagle was too low, which has now been raised to the center of the coin.

Sufficient time remains before the close of the year for the striking of a sufficient number to remove the new design from the "rare" class. But the alterations are so pronounced

that all will need both issues of 1917 to make their collections complete.

Note that none of these reflects any fuss about Miss Liberty's partially undraped presence. Likewise, I could find no other 1916-1917 journal, magazine, or book references to any public outcry about Miss Liberty's lack of modesty. The eagle on the reverse took most of the heat.

I did find an interesting article in the September 1954 issue of *The Numismatist* entitled "Design Changes on the Liberty Standing Quarter" by Michael Dolnick, which is reprinted beginning on page 7 of this issue of *MacNeil's Notes*. ☐

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The following article is reprinted from the September 1954 issue of "The Numismatist," published by the American Numismatic Association, 818 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279.

## Design changes on the Liberty Standing quarter

Michael M. Dolnick

As a collector, I was aware of the existence of two types of Liberty Standing quarters. Recently acquiring an uncirculated type 1 quarter, I discovered that not only was the eagle raised and stars added to the new issue, but the lady had been modestly draped in an unattractive garment which could not have been considered stylish even in 1917. Why? Surely it was not because of lack of beauty, since even the most discriminating of collectors would hardly find fault with Miss Liberty's charms. My immediate conclusion was that public pressure from puritanical individuals (obviously not numismatists) had coerced the Treasury Department into revealing less of Miss Liberty and thereby foisted a less attractive coin upon the American public.

In attempting to trace the history of this situation, *The Numismatist* of 1917 was examined. This avenue of approach was most disappointing, however, because it did not support my original conclusion. Nobody seemed particularly concerned over Liberty's change in costume. There were some interesting sidelights and additional information in *The Numismatist* on the subject of the design change, but my theory was neglected.

When the new series of coins were issued in 1916, the response of the numismatic world was one of universal acclaim. An editorial in *The Numismatist* of January 1917 stated, "The new designs form the most attractive set of silver coins ever issued by this or any other government . . . the obverse of the quarter dollar is strikingly beautiful. It must have come as a surprise, therefore, when the change in design was announced in March

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*Nobody seemed particularly concerned over Liberty's change in costume.*

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of 1917. *The Numismatist* of August 1917 quoted a press dispatch from Washington which said that because the new quarter dollar had been found to accumulate dirt too readily, the Mint had begun work on new dies for the coin to render them less liable to germ-catching.

Hermon A. MacNeil, the designer of the Liberty Standing quarter, may have been partially responsible for advancing this theory of germ free coinage. In a newspaper interview, Mr. MacNeil was quoted as saying, "Making a relief for a coin is very different from making one for any other purpose. There is much to be considered. Especially must there be no crevices in which

germs and dirt may collect. Uncle Sam is very particular about this."

In the November 1917 issue, *The Numismatist* took note of Liberty's

*We are not sure that it was the intention of the designer to clothe Liberty in this garb.*

new garb and concluded that it was a coat of mail. An editorial in that issue stated, "We are not sure that it was the intention of the designer to clothe Liberty in this garb . . . We are officially told that the design of the 25-cent piece is intended to typify in a measure the awakening interest of the country in its own protection. The issue from the revised die occurs at a time when we are at war with Germany. If Liberty's new costume is a gown of mail, it is suggestive of the fact, and is it another instance of where coins are records of history?"

In response to an inquiry, the following letter was received on February 2, 1954 from Mrs. Rae V. Biester, Superintendent of the United States Mint.

. . . Your letter concerning the design of the quarter dollar struck from 1916 to 1930, and the change which was made in 1917, is hereby acknowledged.

We have checked our files and find no reference to the reason you state for this change. We quote from the Report of the Director of the Mint relative to this coin:

**Monetary Legislation (Public No. 27 — 65th Congress)**

An ACT providing for the modification of the designs of the current quarter dollar.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, 'That for the purpose of *increasing the artistic merit* of the current

quarter dollar, the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized to make slight modifications in the details of the designs in accordance with sketches submitted by the sculptor whose models were accepted under date of May twenty-third, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and now being used in the execution of the coins.

No changes shall be made in the emblems or devices used. The modifications shall consist of the changing of the position of the eagle, the rearrangement of the stars and lettering, and a slight concavity given to the surface. Such changes shall be made and completed on or before July first, nineteen hundred and eighteen.

Approved July 9, 1917.

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*... for the purpose of increasing the artistic merit of the quarter dollar, ... is hereby, authorized to make slight modifications.*

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(Italicized words are those of Superintendent of the Mint.)

In view of the contradictory information uncovered thus far it was thought advisable to go to an unimpeachable source for truth and accuracy — the halls of Congress.

Sen. Owen, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency, reported as follows in the Congressional Record of April 30, 1917: "... It authorizes the Director of the Mint to change the recent die for the quarter dollar. The quarters do not stack up and it is necessary to make a small concavity in order to enable them to stack without toppling."

Can you imagine discarding the original Miss Liberty because she didn't stack well?

When Sen. Owen completed his report, Sen. Warren made this comment: "After the experience we had some years ago with the St. Gaudens coin that would not stack and we have to provide for a new die, I would like to ask the author of the bill how it happens that a model is accepted and adopted as the law of the land before it is known whether the coins will stack?"

To this Sen. Owen replied, "It was found after they had actually made them that they did not stack well and for that reason it became of some importance to change the die. I do not know how it occurred in the first place, but they have to change the

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*Can you imagine discarding the original Miss Liberty because she didn't stack well?*

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position of the eagle in order to prevent the coins from toppling when stacked."

"In other words, we have to pass a law to correct the careless error of some subordinate," said Warren.

"I am afraid I shall have to plead guilty to that charge against the Director of the Mint," Owen admitted.

*The modifications proposed  
are slight, . . . the eagle has  
been raised and three of the  
stars placed beneath the eagle.*

This concluded Senate debate on the measure and the bill was passed. Debate in the House of Representatives proceeded along different lines. On June 25, 1917, Mr. Ashbrook

reported that after a small quantity of the quarters had been minted, it was found that the coin did not stack well and it was not, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, an artistic design. For that reason coinage had been suspended.

The following letter was read into the Congressional Record:

Treasury Department  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington  
April 16, 1917

Hon. William A. Ashbrook  
Chairman, Committee on Coinage,  
Weights and Measures:

My dear Congressman:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a draft of an act to authorize the modification of the design of the current quarter dollar in accordance with a specimen submitted by Mr. Hermon A. MacNeil, the sculptor whose designs were accepted on May 23, 1916 for the quarter dollar now being issued.

The modifications proposed are slight, the principle one being that the eagle has been raised and three of the stars placed beneath the eagle. On the reverse the lettering has been rearranged and the collision with the pinions of the wings obviated. These changes together with a slight concavity will produce a coin materially improved in artistic merit and not interfere in any way with its practical use.

I am sorry to have to ask for this change, but since the original dies were made the artist has found that they are not true to the original design and that a great improvement can be made in the artistic value and appearance of the coin by making the slight changes the act contemplates.

Sincerely yours,  
W. G. McAdoo, Secretary

After the letter was read, considerable debate followed on the specified completion date of July 1, 1918, which appeared in the bill. If this was an emergency measure, as Mr. Ashbrook insisted, why was a completion date an entire year away assigned to the bill? At that time there were less than 3,000 quarters in the Mint and the Mint did not want to make any more under the old design. The new dies were ready and only passage of the bill by the House of Representatives held up issuance of the new coins. At this point a Congressman offered an amendment to set a completion date during 1917. The amendment was well received until it was pointed out that the Senate had passed the measure including the 1918 date and if the amendment were accepted the bill would have to return to the Senate. By this time a weary member of the House insisted that he did not want to hear any more debate on the subject. Everyone agreed that this was truly an emergency and the bill was passed.

In order to make certain that our Congressmen were right, a Chicago coin shop was visited and was kind enough to demonstrate with some uncirculated Type I quarters. Never again will I doubt the wisdom of Congress! The coins did not stack. ☐



We reproduce photos of the Type I and II reverse as a reference for readers while reading these articles.

The following article is excerpted from the July/August 1993 issue of "Rare Coin Review, No. 94," published by Bowers & Merena Galleries, Inc., P.O. Box 1224, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.

## The 1916 Standing Liberty quarter

The nudity aspect was just a "good story"

Henry Hettger & Susan Novak

**O**n December 28, 1915, a competition for new designs for the dime, quarter, and half-dollar was announced. Mint Engraver Charles E. Barber was informed by Mint Director Robert W. Woolley on March 3, 1916 that designs submitted by Hermon Atkins MacNeil had been approved.

H.B. Brougham of the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* wrote to Secretary of the Treasury William G. McAdoo on May 31, 1916, asking why the designs of the half dollar, quarter dollar and dime were being changed, so that he could publish stories about the change simultaneously in the chief newspapers covering various sections of the country. He also congratulated Mr. McAdoo on the choice of Mr. Weinman and Mr. MacNeil for making the new designs.

Brougham added a handwritten postscript to the bottom of his letter: "Won't the law allow publication of the designs submitted on approval? That would not be a reproduction of the coins — would it? There is a great deal of public animosity about the designs which is quite natural and innocent."

McAdoo replied:

Section 351C, as amended by the Act of September 26, 1890, provides that "The Director of the Mint shall have power, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, to cause new designs of models of authorized emblems or devices to be prepared and adopted in the same manner as when new coins or devices are authorized, but no change in the design or die of any coin shall be made oftener than once in 25 years from and including the year of the first adoption of the design, model, die, or hub from the same coin.

The existing designs of the half dollar, quarter dollar, and dime have been used for 25 years, and I believed that more artistic designs could be obtained and would be appreciated by the public generally. I believe the designs that have been accepted will justify making the change.

The law specifically prohibits the reproduction of the images of coins in publications other than numismatic and historical journals, but I am now considering permitting the publication of part of the design, if it can be done without the breach of the law."

The August 1916 *Numismatist* reprinted a *Boston Herald* article, which noted in part:

Uncle Sam has some coins coming from his mint this month that are sure to be coveted by collectors. For the first time since 1891 we are to see new dimes, quarters, and half-dollars, and on each of them is to appear some reminder of our advanced status as a nation . . . .

. . . On the 25-cent piece, taking a new pose and gesture, [the goddess liberty] is to be seen stepping toward the country's gateway, bearing upraised a shield from which the covering is being drawn, and in her right hand the olive branch of peace. This is the coin of the preparedness movement; it indicates, as Secretary McAdoo tells us, that the country is "awakening to its own protection."

### Seminude figure

The design itself set the precedent of depicting a seminude figure on circulating American coinage, although many medals of the time presented images of the human form in various poses — for example, the Panama-Pacific International Exposition Official Award Medal of 1916, the 1917 National Arts Club Prize Valor Medal, the 1917 Catskill Aqueduct Medal, and the 1918 American Society of Civic Engineers J. James R. Croes Medal. And the 1872 Amazonian design pattern pieces by William Barber are a splendid example of a partially draped figure of Liberty holding a sword instead of an olive branch.

Another seminude pattern die trial piece appearing in 1870-1872 was the so-called "Indian Princess," which was Barber's

copy of the Longacre design for the dollar, commercial dollar, and trade dollar with the partially draped figure in a seated fashion holding a pole with liberty cap, resting one hand on a glove, and wearing an Indian style headdress.

Such provocative designs achieved a fair amount of success on modern coinage such as the gold coinage of the Danish West Indies coined in 1904 and 1905, the 1 and 2 franc silver coins with three female seminude figures, but low mintages meant the coins were rarely encountered and thus they seldom engendered animosity from the public.

### A coin without merit

A strong editorial in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* regarding the design of the new Standing Liberty quarter appeared on the editorial page for January 16. The headline read: "A Coin Absolutely Without Merit." It stated:

Whatever else the new twenty-five cent piece may be, it surely is not an artistic coin. The duck or dove or what-is-it that appears on one side and the giant fat lady who guards the other side may have pleased the artist, but one cannot help wondering what he thought he was trying to accomplish. The old coin was dignified and every way worthy. The new contrivance is absolutely without merit, unless it be told in the way of a token to give away in prize packages of peanuts.

The coinage of this monstrosity ought to be stopped. Give us back the head of Liberty and the good old eagle with the shield. They meant something.

The new design received mixed coverage in the *Public Ledger* of Philadelphia on January 17, 1917:

The last coin is out of the government bag and the new silver quarter is at hand and in circulation. While the eagle of the reverse looks very like the eagle of the "white penny" of the late fifties, since it flies with outspread wings, it is not unlike some dove of peace.

The lady of the obverse, on the other hand, seems to be in a quandary as to what she expects. For, while she seems to be walking through an open gateway in a walled balustrade, as if

answering the call of "Come into the garden, Maud," she has her face averted from the tree, outreaching right hand, which holds an olive branch, and instead is looking steadily toward the left, which holds a shield firmly against her shoulder.

There may be no symbolism in this pose, intended or accidental, but the goddess certainly seems to be more expectant of things to defend than concerned about meeting the peace folks half way. At the same time the designs on the two faces represent an artistic advance, present a proper variation from the fifty-cent designs, and give us a minor silver coinage that is picturesque and developed along the lines of the best numismatic practice abroad, where good coinage standards prevail.

### Indecency

Although Breen and others state the reasons for changing the original design lay in public outcry over the indecency of Miss Liberty's exposed breast, documentation of this reaction is not forthcoming, and indeed may have been covered up for the sake of propriety. There were several design flaws in the original design, including the date appearing on a raised plaque unprotected by raised rim, so that it wore down to illegibility long before anything else — a problem not corrected until 1925. Also, Miss Liberty's head on 1916s, and continuing on all dates through 1930, is apt to show less than half of its design details.

In any event, Congress approved a modification of the new-design silver quarter on July 9, 1917, "for the purpose of increasing its artistic merit." It was noted that "the modification shall consist of the changing of the position of the eagle, the rearrangement of the stars and lettering, and a slight concavity given to the surface."

In the official description of the modifications there is no discussion regarding the replacement of artistic license with artistic merit resulting in a coat of mail covering Miss Liberty's bust. A simpler solution would have been for the burlesque queen to merely shift her shield to cover her bare breast.

According to Ted Schwarz in *A History of United States Coinage*, the government was not about to admit to a mistake in permitting blatant immodesty on a U.S. coin design. He writes, "the coin design was ordered changed, but no one said a word about

the charge of lewdness that had been made."

The original Standing Liberty quarter design was used on the circulating coinage of 1916, and with some almost invisible modifications, on what are known today as the Type I issues of 1917, produced at the Philadelphia, Denver and San Francisco mints. Production quantities were as follows:

1916: 52,000  
1917 Variety I: 8,740,000  
1917-D Variety I: 1,509,200  
1917-S Variety I: 1,952,000

Later 1917 issues were known as the Type II motif and featured Miss Liberty on the obverse, now securely covered by a jacket of mail, and on the reverse the eagle in a different position with three stars below, among other modifications. Production quantities were as follows:

1917 Variety II: 13,880,000  
1917-D Variety II: 6,224,400  
1917-S Variety II: 5,552,000

While today it is popular to suggest that the obverse was modified to cover up Miss Liberty's nude breast, as noted, no contemporary articles or documents have been located to reinforce this assertion. Nude statues were common in public areas, nude figures were shown on medals during the second decade of the twentieth century, and nudity was even occasionally seen on the movie screen, such as in Thanhouser's film, *Inspiration*, which featured Audrey Munson (who had posed for sculpture at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition) without a stitch of clothing. Unless more information is forthcoming, the nudity aspect of the 1916-1917 Type I quarter must be written off simply as "a good story."

Since those days, nudity has appeared again on our coins in the form of the discus thrower on the 1983 Olympic commemorative silver dollar and the headless torso on the 1984 Olympic Games commemoratives. The latter was widely criticized, not for its nudity, but for lack of overall artistic appeal. ☐



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## **Loose change**

### **Coin World reviews Spring issue**

A recent issue of *Coin World* reviewed our Spring 1993 issue under the headline, "Club issues latest journal." They mentioned John Garhammer's article on investment potential of SLQs and Mike Brelsford's article on assembling a high-grade collection as well as several others.

### **In sympathy**

The Society is sorry to hear of the death of Ginger Bryan and sends its sympathy to her husband, Roger Bryan. Ginger worked for many years with the Florida United Numismatists (FUN). During her 20 years of service she served in many capacities, including bourse chairman, convention coordinator, director, and secretary. For a number of years she graciously provided SLQCS with meeting space at the FUN conventions.

### **SLQCS winter meeting coming up**

Are you going to the FUN Show in Orlando, Florida in January? Good! The officers of SLQCS have tentatively scheduled the Society's winter meeting on Saturday, January 8 at 11:00 am. Mark your calendar. The meeting room and agenda haven't been set yet — consult the bulletin board at FUN headquarters or write SLQCS for information as the date nears.

### **Collecting back issues?**

Back issues of *MacNeil's Notes* are available at \$3.50 each, or \$10 for a one-year set, from the SLQCS, P.O. Box 14762, Albuquerque, NM 87191-4762. Four issues were published in 1990 and three in 1991 and 1992. We are out of the inaugural issue, Vol. I, No. 1; and must fill orders for it on photocopy. If you have an original, you may want to get it slabbed.

### **Need high-quality photos of your collection?**

Tom Mulvaney, who took many of the high-quality, high-magnification photographs in past issues, has offered his services to all SLQCS members at very reasonable rates. To contact Tom, see his ad on page 6.

### **Photos for your MacNeil's Notes article**

We'd be happy to arrange for (and pay for) photos of coins for inclusion in articles you submit for publication. Note the coin(s) of which you need photos when you submit your draft article. Please get photo requests to us at least one month ahead of our normal deadline (see masthead).

### **SLQCS belongs to ANA and FUN**

Note that SLQCS holds memberships in ANA (#C-149211) and FUN (#12360). Benefits available to our members include access and loan privileges at their libraries, and special rates for seminars and publications.

### **WOW! Cline's book free to SLQCS members**

For a limited time, J. H. Cline, author of *Standing Liberty Quarters*, is giving away the revised (1986) edition of the softbound copy of his book only to SLQCS members for postage, \$1.50. Order copies directly from him at P.O. Box 68, Palm Harbor, FL 34682. Please include a photocopy of your membership card.

### **Discounts on fact sheets**

From the National Collector's Laboratories we have arranged member discounts for the following publications: *Genuine Characteristics Report of the 1916 Type I Quarter*, *Genuine Characteristics Report of the Overdate Quarter*, and *Counterfeit Analysis Report of the 1917 Type I Quarter*. The Society is offering a set of these three to members at a postpaid price of \$4.00 (regularly \$5.00). Make check payable to SLQCS and mail to P.O. Box 14762, Albuquerque, NM 87191-4762.

### **Two-bits worth from the editor**

We suffered a drought of member-submitted articles for this issue and although it made room for several reprints on the Type I to Type II enigma, we can't live on reprints indefinitely. SLQCS is a small organization and so we don't have a large base of writers, but I urge each of you to consider submitting a research article, a short anecdote, a picture with a caption, questions and suggestions for "Keith's Korner," or comments on a previous article in this journal or other publications. Don't worry about any lack of writing experience — June and I can help "tidy up" your material.

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## Keith's Korner

### Keith Saunders

I would be interested in any help I can get on porous coins that don't show any real wear. I'm referring to 1918/17-S. And also I'd like information on anyone who might be selling or have appraisals of said coin.

Steve Sittard  
St. Paul, MN

*Keith's Opinion: Porous surfaces may be a sign of a cast counterfeit coin, but more likely a coin that has been harshly chemically treated. Take the coin to the ANA authentication table at a large show for an opinion, or send it to them or one of the other grading services for their opinions. If the coin has indeed been harshly chemically treated, I don't believe NGC or PCGS will slab it, but they will return it with comment.*



I have seen coins at shows called full head that do not meet the descriptions of full head that I have seen in books, articles, and the descriptions in the SLQCS Journal. The difference in price between full and nonfull head is very great for some dates. What do I do?

J.H.  
California

*Keith's Opinion: Although full-head criteria for some dates vary slightly, in my experience the generally accepted criteria are as I proposed in Vol. I, No. 4, and Vol. II, No. 1, of MacNeil's Notes; briefly, three complete sprigs in the hair, visible ear hole, and an unbroken hair line. Full heads were also discussed in greater detail by Joe Abbin in Vol. III, No. 2. Don't forget: buy the coin, not the holder or the sales rhetoric. Also, it does not hurt to get a second or third opinion when practical.*

## Letters, we get letters

In your Spring '93 issue, L.C. Wang asked about market values for AU, MS61, and MS62 full heads. Every issue of *Certified Coin Dealer Newsletter* lists current PCGS and NGC bid and ask 61 and 62 full-head prices for common Type II's.

Strangely, no prices are given for Type I full heads. Anyone know why? Once a month they list prices for all dates for grades 63 through 67. Here again, it's strange that they list full heads only for 64 through 67, and omit 63. My guesstimate on AU full heads is to add 10 percent to nonfull-head AU prices.

David J. Cowan, New York

Please send information on how to put some variety information in the Journals. I have a 1919-S with a double EE in E Pluribus Unum on the reverse.

Mark T. Wagner

*Editor's note:* See *Loose Change* paragraph: "Photos for your MacNeil's Notes articles."

Although it may be "yesterday's news," I wanted to cite a quotation from Bowers and Merena's Autumn, 1991, *Rare Coin Review*, p. 31, as follows: "On the 1916 (SLQ) issue, Miss Liberty's right foot is slightly

broader than on the 1917-dated pieces, and there are some rather substantial differences in the pattern of folds in Miss Liberty's garment."

For those of us who only aspire to own the 1916 issues in MS62 (or above) grade, I would ask whether *MacNeil's Notes* has fully explored these and any other minor design differences between Type I's and Type II's.

Just a thought I wish to offer to our members/readership. I recently purchased a 1921 (VF) fully struck date from a well-known mail order dealer. The date, in particular, appears as very poorly struck, although the obverse devices generally grade VF. My question is, "What research exists specifically on the striking of the dates other than noting the greater susceptibility of the date to wear on Type II's?" Keep up the good work.

Charles K. Miller, Philadelphia

*President's note:* A year by year analysis of date strike characteristics would be a welcome article. J.H. Cline's book (see *Loose Change*) and Walter Breen's "Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins" include discussions on striking in general.

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## Treasurer's report

The following is a summary of the Society's financial transactions for the period indicated:

**Balance as of March 15, 1993** \$3040.84

### Income

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1993 Dues                  | 280.00       |
| 1994 Dues                  | 10.00        |
| 1995 Dues                  | 10.00        |
| Journal Sales, Back Issues | 67.00        |
| Fact Sheet Sales           | 4.00         |
| Savings Account Interest   | <u>26.43</u> |
| Total                      | \$397.43     |

### Expenses

#### Spring Journal:

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Printing and Editing | 440.19       |
| Postage              | 98.30        |
| Office Supplies      | 42.92        |
| P.O. Box Rental      | 24.50        |
| Breen Memorial       | <u>13.00</u> |
|                      | \$618.91     |

**Balance forward as of July 15, 1993** \$2819.36

*Keith Saunders,  
Vice President/Treasurer*

## **Bylaws for the SLQCS**

1. Promotes the sharing and writing of information on Standing Liberty quarters to an organization of individuals who are interested in increasing their knowledge of the series. For Society purposes, Standing Liberty quarters are defined as U.S. coins designed by Hermon A. MacNeil and dated between 1916 and 1930 (inclusive);
2. Gives Standing Liberty quarter collectors an opportunity to contact other collectors with similar numismatic interest;
3. Can promote consistent grading standards among collectors, dealers, Society members and nonmembers alike;
4. Provides members a means to sell their Standing Liberty quarters to other members, in an effort to complete or upgrade their collection;
5. Offers benefits to all collectors of Standing Liberty quarters, whether they collect AG through MS65+ or in between;
6. Gives its members an opportunity to express their opinions regarding all aspects of the Society;
7. Is a not-for-profit organization in all aspects, dedicated solely to the benefit of its members and those who assist the Society in advancing its purposes.

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## Advertisements

There is no charge for classified advertisements from collector-members up to a maximum of 40 words.

### Dealer advertising rates

|              | <u>One issue</u> | <u>Four issues</u> |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Full page    | \$40             | \$135              |
| Half page    | 25               | 85                 |
| Quarter page | 15               | 50                 |

Copy changes are permitted with each issue if camera-ready copy is provided. Deadlines for advertisements for the Spring, Summer, and Fall/Winter issues of *MacNeil's Notes* are March 1, July 1, and November 1, respectively.

### Classified ads

#### For Sale

COMPUTER PROGRAM LISTS AND inventories of varieties of U.S. coins. Specify coin & computer. Most require 1 disc. \$15 for 1st disc, \$5 each additional. Money back guarantee. Free update. SASE for available discs. Darrel Neidigh, 405 Topsfield, Hockessin, DE 19707.

STANDING LIBERTY QUARTERS, reference books; Cline, 1976, 135 pp., pl., ill., S.C. \$7 UPS, \$8 USPO. Send \$1 (refundable) for full book list. Henry Bergos, 637 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

STANDING LIBERTY QUARTERS for less. Buy, sell, or trade. Full heads and normal strikes. Many dates and grades are available. John Fox, Box 232, St. Simon's Island, GA 31522. (912) 265-1052, 10-3 pm Eastern, seven days per week.

A LARGE SELECTION OF SLQs covering a wide range of dates and grades are available. Please write for my current list. Joseph Quartell, P.O. Box 302, Maxwell, NM 87728.

1929 MS64 FH, NICE LUSTER, VERY light golden toning, \$395. Trades considered. SLQ (copies) made to fool early slot machines, \$3.50 each with SASE. Joe Abbin, 11716 Tivoli NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111, (505) 296-7678.

#### Wanted

SLQ ERRORS, ESPECIALLY BROKAGES and Wrong-Planchet Strikes. Leave a PRIVATE message to SysOp, Numis-Net, (301) 498-8205, 300/1200/2400 Baud, 24 hours, or write to: LDM, Box 5100, Laurel Centre Station, Laurel, MD 20726. Thanks!

FULL HEAD STANDING LIBERTY quarters in AU50 or better for the following years/mm: 1920-S, 1926-D, 1926-S, and 1928-D. Joe Abbin, 11716 Tivoli NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111, (505) 296-7678.

SELL ME YOUR PCGS OR NGC 63 full heads: 1919-D&S, 1920-D&S, 1924-S; 1926-D&S, 1927-S. Also need PCGS 65FH, 66 FH, or 67 FH Type I's plus any commons in 66 FH. David Cowen, (212) 255-7575.

**STANDING LIBERTY QUARTER COLLECTORS SOCIETY — MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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interests: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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